

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims so that they read as follows:

1. (Original) A method for manufacturing a recording medium having a layer structure with at least one signal recording layer on a thermoplastic resin support substrate surface, comprising:
 surface treating said support substrate by placing said support substrate in an active gas atmosphere, wherein said surface treating step is conducted prior to forming said layer structure on top of said support substrate.

2. (Original) A method for manufacturing a recording medium, as described in Claim 1, wherein:

said surface treating step results in a contact angle with water of said support substrate surface of 60 degrees or less; and

said surface treating step results in a reduction in transmittance of 400 nm ultraviolet light, compared to said support substrate prior to treatment, of 10% or less.

3. (Original) A method for manufacturing a recording medium, as described in Claim 1, wherein:

after said surface treating step is complete, said active gas atmosphere is replaced with an inert gas.

4. (Original) A method for manufacturing a recording medium, as described in Claim 3, wherein said inert gas is nitrogen.

5. (Original) A method for manufacturing a recording medium, as described in Claim 2, wherein:

after said surface treating step in complete, said active gas atmosphere is replaced with an inert gas.

14. (Original) A recording medium as described in claim 13, wherein:
said surface treating step results in a contact angle with water of said support substrate surface of 60 degrees or less; and
said surface treating step results in a reduction in transmittance of 400 nm ultraviolet light, compared to said support substrate prior to treatment, of 10% or less.

15. (Previously Presented) A method for manufacturing a recording medium having a layer structure with at least one signal recording layer on a thermoplastic resin support substrate surface, comprising:

surface treating said support substrate by placing said support substrate in an active gas atmosphere, wherein said surface treating is conducted prior to forming said layer structure with at least one signal recording layer on top of said support substrate.

16. (Previously Presented) A recording medium produced by the process of claim 15.

17. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the recording medium is a hard disk.

18. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein the recording medium is a hard disk.